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CITE FBIS/GULF 19567

TO: FBIS.

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- I. A STATE DEPARTMENT IG TEAM IS CURRENTLY SURVEYING THE MANAMA MISSION. I MET THIS MORNING WITH A MR ROBERT M. MILLER, A SENIOR INSPECTOR. MILLER WAS PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN THE BUREAU'S RELATION-SHIP WITH THE EMBASSY IN TERMS OF THE EMBASSY'S DIPLOMATIC MANDATE, THE EMBASSY'S SUPPORT FOR OUR OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, AND OUR OVERALL PERCEPTION OF OURSELVES AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE EMBASSY.
- 2. I BRIEFED MILLER ON THE BUREAU'S HISTORY, OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BAHRAINI GOVERNMENT AND OUR WORKADAY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EMBASSY, ILLUSTRATING AT EACH POINT OUR ONGOING NEED TO BE LOW PROFILE AND UNOBSTRUSIVE. I TOLD MILLER THAT WE WERE PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S PERSONAL SUPPORT, AND IN GENERAL FOR ALL ASPECTS OF THE EMBASSY'S OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. I DID MAKE A POINT OF MENTIONING OUR LARGE FAAS COSTS AND OUR PERCEPTION THAT WE SEEMED TO PAY AN INORDINATE SHARE OF THESE COSTS.
- 3. MILLER WAS SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT FBIS HAD OPTED OUT OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S WORLDWIDE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM. I BRIEFLY DETAILED OUR DIFFICULTIES WITH STATE OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS IN TRYING TO RESOLVE CLASSIFICATION ISSUES, WHICH LED US TO THE DECISION TO ESTABLISH OUR SYSTEM. MILLER WAS QUITE SYMPATHETIC, RECOUNTING HIS OWN EXPERIENCES WITH CLASSIFICATION PROBLEMS.
- 4. ON A FINAL NOTE I GAVE MILLER YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER WHEN HE SUGGESTED THAT HIS TEAM MIGHT HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS LATER REGARDING FBIS FAAS COSTS, OUR DIFFICULTIES WITH THE STATE CLASSIFICATION OFFICE, AND SO FORTH. THIS WAS MORE OF AN AFTERTHOUGHT SO YOU MAY NEVER HEAR FROM HIM. RVW 30 OCT 88 ORG ALL CONFIDENTIAL.

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